

Quick Take

What:

Mobility 2040: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas, which proposes spending \$118.9 billion through 2040 on the region's multimodal transportation system.

Significance:

Dallas-Fort Worth is the fourth-largest metropolitan area in the country, and it is growing. Continued investment in multiple transportation and innovative management options are needed to help the region's residents reach their destinations safely and efficiently.

By the Numbers:

10.7 million

The projected population of Dallas-Fort Worth in 2040. The region currently has a population of 7 million and is expected to continue to grow by about 1 million people per decade.

Long-Range Transportation Plan Steers Region



Mobility 2040 is the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas. Approved by the Regional Transportation Council in March 2016, it serves as a blueprint for improvements to the region's transportation system. Mobility 2040 recommends policies, programs, and projects to meet the region's transportation needs.

It includes recommendations for improvements to roadway, rail, and bicycle/pedestrian facilities, as well as strategies to maximize resources available.

Mobility 2040 identifies options – from roadways to trails to passenger rail – to give the region's residents choices when they travel. Recent state constitutional amendments have provided additional transportation funding, and Mobility 2040 identifies \$118.9 billion in transportation improvements. But these expected funds will meet less than 30 percent of the region's transportation needs. Current estimates indicate that the region would have to spend \$431.5 billion by 2040 to eliminate the worst levels of congestion. However, the MTP is not a wish list of improvements. It can only include recommendations for projects for which funding is expected to be available.

Because transportation needs are outpacing available funding, the Mobility Plan prioritizes projects that maximize the existing transportation system, then strategically invests in new infrastructure.



FACTSheet

To make the most of the existing transportation system, Mobility 2040 focuses on:

- Infrastructure maintenance to preserve and operate existing facilities. **(\$37.4 billion)**
- Management and operations strategies that improve the transportation system's efficiency and provide alternatives to driving or to driving alone. **(\$7.2 billion)**
- Growth, development, and land use strategies to improve the transportation-land use connection. **(\$3.6 billion)**

After the incorporation of lower-cost improvements into the MTP, major infrastructure investments are still necessary to address the region's transportation needs. Mobility 2040 focuses on:

- Rail and bus to increase the availability of transit options. **(\$27.2 billion)**
- Freeways, tollways, and arterials that increase the number of vehicles the transportation system can carry. This includes HOV/managed lanes, which allow motorists to reach their destinations more efficiently. **(\$43.4 billion)**

Designing the System of the Future

Nontransportation Factors

Factors beyond operations and infrastructure must be considered when creating a robust transportation system. Mobility 2040 also focuses on:

Air Quality:

Efforts to address air pollution include reducing the number of miles that vehicles travel, lessening emissions-causing congestion, and implementing public education campaigns.

Environmental:

Natural areas provide services such as parks and clean water for people and habitat for wildlife. Transportation projects can be designed to reduce people's impacts on these areas. Each roadway and rail corridor in Mobility 2040 has been scored on its potential impact on the environment.

Social:

Mobility 2040 recommendations are analyzed to determine how they affect and benefit communities, including low-income residents and those who have been historically discriminated against. Participation from the public was actively sought during development of Mobility 2040.

Innovative Solutions

Mobility 2040 recognizes that innovative solutions are needed to achieve the goals outlined in the plan. The plan identifies the following alternatives:

Capacity/Maintenance (Cap-Main):

Seeks to relieve congestion and enhance mobility by implementing lower-cost solutions, typically within the facility's existing right-of-way.

High-Intensity Bus:

High-Intensity Bus can be used to introduce transit into corridors that will be served by rail in the future, or it can be implemented in place of a rail line.

Policy Bundle:

Policies can be voluntarily adopted by local governments and transportation agencies to address regional issues. They cover topics such as the locations of new schools, land-use strategies, and implementation of transit service.

Participating agencies that adopt 50 percent of the applicable policies will receive assistance in funding federal transportation projects.



North Central Texas Council of Governments

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